

Don Clark Radio Communications, Inc.

Specialists in 2-Way Radio Sales and Service

550 W. Pacific St.

Blackfoot, Idaho 83221

Phone (208) 785-1430

**ORIGINAL
FCC COPY**

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Federal Communications Commission
Washington DC 20554

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Donald R. Clark. The name of my company is Don Clark Radio Electronics, Inc., located at 550 West Pacific Street, Blackfoot, ID 83221. Telephone number (208)785-1430 and FAX number (208)785-0001. I started in the radio business over 54 years ago. I took two years off from '44 - '46 to serve in the United States Navy, where I risked my life unwillingly, to protect this country that we might enjoy our freedoms. The bureaucrats and government agencies have now taken most of these freedoms away. I started out as a one man operation, with the assistance of my wife, repairing AM broadcast radios and small electrical appliances - anything I could do to make a living. I am a ham operator, W7OHG, and have held a first class telephone operators permit for many years. I was Chief Engineer of the local radio station when it was built and was a projectionist at the local theater. It took two or three different jobs and incomes to make a living. When the FCC authorized the public safety radio frequencies and later on special industrial and business frequencies I became involved in selling, servicing, and maintaining two-way radios. My company has been authorized to service and sell Motorola, G E, E F Johnson, and several other products for communication manufactures. We installed the first two-way mobile radios in law enforcement in this area, the frequency was 42.540 MHz. I used to see the Federal Communications Commission as a competent and knowledgeable federal agency; even though I did not understand why someone had to be a special individual to connect a telephone to a radio or to be an RCC but this is the way it was.

I have abided by all rules and regulations which the FCC has set forth because I thought you knew better than I and they were justifiable. As I get older I find out this is not the case. Do you realize you have the audacity to require me to pay for licensing time and time again for a single frequency that I have used for many years. We'll skip a lot of things I should and ought to say and go on to the SMR mess. You started out only allowing individuals to apply for a 5-channel system. If I remember correctly, manufacturers were not allowed to own or operate a trunking systems. As small businessmen pursued this technology and perfected it, larger corporations began enterprising on their efforts. Those businesses in large metropolitan areas, who entered in it, have done very well. My service area is southeastern Idaho. My population base is less than 150,000 people (we have just about one million people in the entire state of Idaho).

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As companies expanded systems the FCC modified some of the rules and regulations. When you proposed a few years ago refarming spectrum and bringing a lot of the spectrum that our lord and master (government) occupied with no usage, I thought that was great. Even though many people in the industry had known for years that these frequencies weren't being utilized and should be available for use by business. When the FCC started to talk about optioning or selling some of the spectrum, I thought that maybe it was not unreasonable. But when the FCC encourages Nextel and other big corporation to not worry about the rules that the rest of us must live by, it makes me think that those with the deepest pockets receive the most favors. When you come back and propose to sell all spectrum to the highest bidder you are making it impossible for any small businesses to compete. If you think the spectrum is worth so much, when are you going to go after the broadcasters and get the really big dollars for the spectrum they occupy?

When I hear different prominent political figures, say they want to save the mom and pop businesses of this country, it literally turns my stomach. The things you are proposing to do will absolutely destroy the small businesses in the communications industry. Someday I hope this industry gets enough sense to get people appointed to the FCC who know what a radio is instead of what the bar exam is. You are destroying this industry with over regulation for some and no regulation for others. I think you should try to look at the air that we breathe and see what type of device you can invent to control it. It is a public resource that you could tax: that would be the ultimate!

There are seven people employed in this corporation, none of them, including myself, are able to be paid \$40,000 a year. The wages they earn allow them to support their families and pay more taxes. I think you should review your policy and look up the definition of "fair".

Sincerely,

Donald R Clark

Donald R. Clark
CEO
Don Clark Radio Electronics, Inc.

DRC/ajc